IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a cylindrical glass body in a vertical drawing process, said method comprising**:**

a method step in which a glass blank is supplied to a heating zone, and softened therein zonewise, and a glass strand is drawn off using a draw-off device at a controlled drawing speed from the softened area,

said draw-off device comprising a first draw-off unit with rolling bodies rolling on said glass strand and being distributed around the circumference thereof,

said rolling bodies including a reference rolling body and at least one auxiliary rolling body,

said reference rolling body and said auxiliary rolling body or bodies each having a respective **varying** torque acting thereon dependent on a **variable** weight of the drawn-off glass strand, the drawing speed being controlled by setting a speed of said reference rolling body,

wherein a value correlated to the torque acting on said reference rolling body is determined and the determined value is used as a setpoint torque for adjusting the torque acting on said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and wherein said value is determined repeatedly or continuously, and the setpoint torque is a variable setpoint torque used to repeatedly or continuously adjust the torque of said at least one auxiliary rolling body.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said torque in said at least one auxiliary rolling body is set to said setpoint torque.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the draw-off device comprises at least one additional draw-off unit including a plurality of additional rolling bodies.

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said additional rolling bodies of said at least one additional draw-off unit are movable in a direction perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of said glass strand.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said additional rolling bodies of said at least one additional draw-off unit are controlled with a setpoint torque thereof being set with reference to the torque of said reference rolling body.

6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said reference and auxiliary rolling bodies are pressed with an adjustable contact pressure force against said glass strand.

7. (original) The method according to claim 6, wherein said contact pressure force is set dependent upon the weight of the drawn-off glass strand.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said reference rolling body, said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and said additional rolling bodies are pressed with an adjustable contact pressure force against said glass strand; and wherein, when a predetermined maximum contact pressure force is exceeded in said rolling bodies of said first draw-off unit, said rolling bodies of said second draw-off unit are additionally brought into engagement with said glass strand, or said contact pressure force is increased in the rolling bodies of said second draw-off unit that are in engagement with said glass strand.

9. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein said contact pressure force is controlled by structure that comprises a damping member.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reference and the at auxiliary rolling bodies have a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5.

11. (original) The method according to claim 10, wherein said roll surface contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said reference rolling body said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and said additional rolling bodies have a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5.

22. (original) The method according to claim 21, wherein said roll surface contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

23. (previously presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein said reference rolling body, said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and said additional rolling bodies have a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5.

24. (original) The method according to claim 23, wherein said roll surface contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said reference rolling body, said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and said additional rolling bodies have a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5.

26. (original) The method according to claim 25, wherein said roll surface contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

27. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said reference rolling body, said at least one auxiliary rolling body, and said additional rolling bodies have a roll surface having a coefficient of friction in the range of from 0.2 to 0.5.

28. (original) The method according to claim 27, wherein said roll surface contains asbestos, asbestos substitutes or SiC.

29. (currently amended) A method for producing a cylindrical glass body in a vertical drawing process, said method comprising:

supplying a glass blank to a heating zone, and softening the glass blank therein;

drawing off a glass strand using a draw-off device at a controlled drawing speed from the softened area, said draw-off device comprising a reference rolling body and an auxiliary rolling body, said reference rolling body and said auxiliary rolling body both engaging the glass strand at a fixed horizontal position,

said reference rolling body and said auxiliary body each having a respective speed controlling device operatively associated therewith,

wherein an input N corresponding to a setpoint drawing speed is supplied to the speed controller of the reference rolling body;

determining, using a sensor connected with the reference rolling body, a reference torque value of torque being applied to said reference rolling body **by the strand as it is drawn**;

determining, using a sensor connected with the auxiliary rolling body, an auxiliary rolling body torque value of torque being applied to the auxiliary rolling body using a sensor;

determining a correction signal K, by a comparison of the reference torque value to the auxiliary rolling body torque value;

supplying the input N and the correction signal K to the speed controlling device of the auxiliary rolling body~~; and~~ **such that** ~~adjusting~~ the torque acting on the auxiliary rolling body **is adjusted** based on said corrective signal K, with the reference rolling body torque value as a variable setpoint torque for the torque acting on the auxiliary

rolling body;

wherein correction signal K is determined and the torque acting on the auxiliary rolling body is adjusted based on correction signal K repeatedly or continuously.

30. (previously presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein the draw-off device comprises at least one additional draw-off unit including a plurality of additional rolling bodies engaging the glass strand at a second fixed horizontal position and each having a respective speed controlling device operatively associated therewith, said method further comprising:

determining a plurality of additional torque values each of or correlated to a respective torque being applied to a respective additional rolling body;

adjusting the torque applied to each of the additional rolling bodies based on a comparison of the additional torque value thereof with the reference torque value, and with the reference rolling body torque value applied as a variable setpoint torque for the torque acting on the auxiliary rolling body;

wherein the torque acting on the additional rolling bodies is adjusted based on said comparison repeatedly or continuously.